China held the largest SIA in the world, vaccinating approximately 103 million children, and India began implementation of a 2-dose vaccination strategy.

Building on the previous WHO and UNICEF strategy, and recognizing the burden of congenital rubella syndrome and the availability of combination vaccines, the Measles Initiative has developed the 2012-2020 Global Measles and Rubella Strategic Plan.‡ This plan aims to (1) achieve and maintain high levels of population immunity through high coverage with 2 doses of measles and rubella—containing vaccines, (2) establish effective surveillance to monitor disease and evaluate progress, (3) develop and maintain outbreak preparedness for rapid response and appropriate case management, (4) communicate and engage to build public confidence in and demand for vaccination, and (5) conduct research and development to support operations and improve vaccination and diagnostic tools.

To reverse the recent increase in global reported measles cases and to make further progress toward achieving 2015 objectives will require (1) overcoming declining political and financial commitments to measles control, (2) achieving uniform high coverage with 2 doses of MCV through routine services or SIAs, and (3) monitoring subnational MCV1 and MCV2 coverage data to guide the development of interventions to increase coverage. Reductions in measles mortality accounted for 23% of the estimated global decline in all-cause child mortality from 1990 to 2008.[10] This contribution to reaching United Nations' Millennium Development Goal 4 for reducing the mortality rate in children aged <5 years by 2015§ is at risk unless the challenges to reaching uniform high coverage with 2 doses of MCV can be overcome.

REFERENCES

1. Wolfson LJ, Strebel PM, Gacic-Dobo M, Hoekstra EJ, McFarland JW, Hersh BS; Measles Initiative. Has the 2005 measles mortality reduction goal been achieved? A natural history modelling study. *Lancet*. 2007;369(9557):191-200.
2. World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). WHO-UNICEF joint statement on strategies to reduce measles mortality worldwide. Geneva, Switzerland: 2001. Available at http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2001/who_v&b_01.40.pdf. Accessed January 27, 2012.
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Global measles mortality, 2000-2008. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep*. 2009;58(47):1321-1326.
4. World Health Organization. Global eradication of measles: report by the Secretariat. Geneva, Switzerland; 2010. Available at http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/wha63/a63_18-en.pdf. Accessed January 27, 2012.
5. World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). WHO-UNICEF estimates of MCV coverage. Geneva, Switzerland; 2011. Available at http://apps.who.int/immunization_monitoring/en/globalsummary/timeseries/tswucoveragemcv.htm. Accessed January 27, 2012.
6. World Health Organization. Measles reported cases. Geneva, Switzerland; 2011. Available at http://apps.who.int/immunization_monitoring/en/globalsummary/timeseries/tsincidencemea.htm. Accessed January 27, 2012.
7. Measles/rubella/congenital rubella syndrome surveillance data final classification, 2010. Immunization Newsletter 2011;33:7. Available at http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=16202&itemid=358. Accessed January 27, 2012.
8. World Health Organization. World Health Organization global technical consultation to assess the feasibility of measles eradication: meeting report. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organization; 2010. Available at http://www.who.int/immunization/sage/1_Global_Technical_Consultation_Assess_Feasibility_Measles_Erad_8_sept_2010.pdf. Accessed January 27, 2012.
9. World Health Organization. Meeting of the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization, November 2010: summary, conclusions and recommendations. *Wkly Epidemiol Rec*. 2011; 86:1-16.
10. van den Ent MM, Brown DW, Hoekstra EJ, Christie A, Cochi SL. Measles mortality reduction contributes substantially to reduction of all cause mortality among children less than five years of age, 1990-2008. *J Infect Dis*. 2011;204(Suppl 1):S18-S23.

*Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vietnam, Yemen, and Zambia.

†Data for years before 2004 were not available.

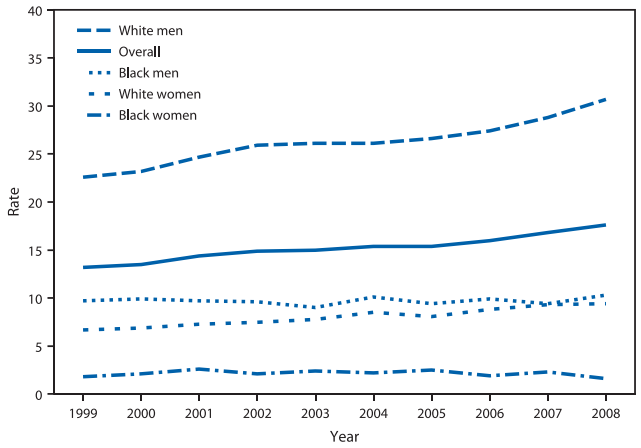
‡The Measles Initiative is a broad partnership established in 2001, spearheaded by the American Red Cross, CDC, the United Nations Foundation, UNICEF, and WHO.

§Additional information available at http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/childhealth.shtml.

QuickStats

FROM THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Death Rates from Suicide* for Persons Aged 45–64 Years, by Black or White Race and Sex — United States, 1999–2008



* Per 100,000 population. Deaths from suicide are those coded *U03, X60-X84, Y87.0 in *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision*.

From 1999 to 2008, the suicide death rate for persons aged 45–64 years increased overall (from 13.2 to 17.6 per 100,000 population) and for white men (from 22.6 to 30.7) and white women (from 6.7 to 9.4), whereas the rate did not change significantly for black men and women. Throughout the period, the suicide rate was highest for white men and lowest for black women. In 2008, the suicide rate for white men was 30.7 per 100,000 population, followed by 10.3 for black men, 9.4 for white women, and 1.6 for black women.

Sources: National Vital Statistics System. Available at http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/mortality_public_use_data.htm. CDC. Health Data Interactive. Available at http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hdi.htm.

MMWR. 2012;61(1):21

©2012 American Medical Association. All rights reserved.

Downloaded From: http://jamanetwork.com/ on 05/24/2013